

Block Watch Workshop

May 24, 2017



What is a Block Watch?

- People living in the same area that want to work with the police department to reduce crime and address quality of life issues in their neighborhood
- Members look out for neighbors and their property and report suspicious activities to the police



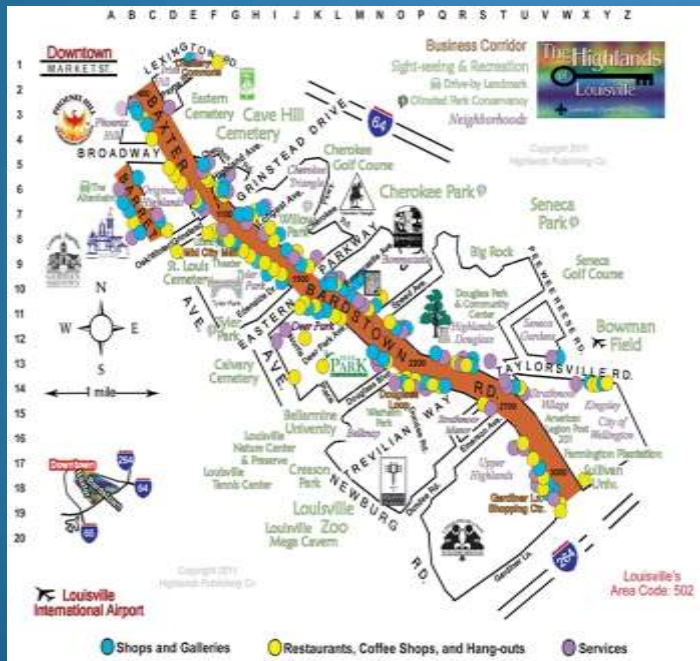
What is a block watch?

- The program involves neighbors becoming familiar with one another and the neighborhood enough so that when something “out of the ordinary” happens, someone will immediately call 911 to report suspicious activity.
- Success of a block watch is directly related to the ongoing participation and support from each member of the watch.
- Many times Block Watches evolve to include not only crime prevention but also emergency preparedness and community building.

What are the benefits of a Block Watch in your neighborhood?



- Crime reduction
- Better quality of life
- Greater sense of security, responsibility and personal control
- Building community pride



What are the benefits of a Block Watch in your neighborhood?



- Helping others in the community
- Becoming an extra set of eyes and ears for LMPD



What are the benefits of a Block Watch in your neighborhood?



- You will learn how to prevent and deter crime in your neighborhood.
- You will learn how reporting suspicious activity right away can help LMPD respond quickly and help prevent crime or help officers catch criminals in the act.
- Block watches combat the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon

How to start a Block Watch

- Recruit and organize as many neighbors as you can
- Contact LMPD to schedule your first official meeting.
- Discuss community concerns and develop an action plan
- Decide on a Block Watch Captain or Co-Captains
- Hold regular meetings and training on relevant events
- Work with LMPD to have guest speakers for specific topics at your meetings.



The role of Block Watch Captain or Co-Captains

- Get new members
- Maintain current list of participants
- Be a liaison between watch members, LMPD, civic groups and the community
- Arrange crime prevention training programs with LMPD for your group meetings
- Distribute Crime Prevention materials to the neighborhood
- Encourage participation in Operation Identification (Engraving, cataloging and photographing valuables)



How a Block Watch works

- Block Watch members provide their contact information so it can be shared among members
- A Block Watch map, email list or phone tree are created and maintained by the Captain or Co-captain of the block watch
- Members report suspicious behavior to police, call 911 when there is suspicious activity occurring right then.
- Suspicious activity is shared with block watch members and then members know what to look for in the neighborhood

How a Block Watch works

- Many Block Watch groups maintain membership and interest by planning neighborhood outings, picnics and having a monthly report
- The neighborhood works together on problem situations, nuisance houses and any other issues the neighborhood cares about



Block Watch agenda examples

- Welcome and sign-in
- Call to order
- Introductions
- Overview of neighborhood watch activities
- Discuss neighborhood issues and crime
- Crime prevention presentations
- Issues for next meeting
- Where the next meeting will be held
- Adjourn/Refreshments



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Useful tools for Block Watch groups

- Neighborhood map - show N,S,E,W, label streets, draw squares for home and label with name, address, phone number, and email for each dwelling
- List of Police and Metro Government contact departments, numbers, and function of each department
- Planning neighborhood outings or picnics to increase membership and maintain interest
- List of surveillance cameras in the neighborhood to help prevention and investigation of crimes
- Create a phone/email tree or a social media page to keep all block watch members informed

Training program examples that might be presented at Block Watch meetings

- Suspicious activity is what?
- Knowing how and what to report when you see something in your neighborhood
- Best ways to secure your home and vehicle and how to prevent opportunities for criminals
- Guest speakers like council members or business leaders in your

Training program examples that might be presented at Block Watch meetings

- Animal Control or other Metro Government departments
- Domestic Violence and resources for victims
- Drug/Narcotics Awareness
- Learn crime prevention techniques such as home security, personal safety and Operation Identification.
- Facts about how LMPD operates –Patrol, Criminal investigations units, Dispatch, Crime information Center, Special Events and Leadership

